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Message Text

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46
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 FAA-00 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /065 W
---------- 103590
R 081421Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9110
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMCONSUL LUANDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN PO
SUBJ: CIVAIR-HS-125 AIRCRAFT DETAINED SAO TOME

REF: LISBON 0249(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: RONALD HAUCK, WHO HAS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS SOUGHT UNSUCCESSFULLY TO TAKE POSSESSION OF AN AIRCRAFT LOCATED ON SAO TOME, PLANS TO RETURN TO LISBON AND SEEK EMBASSY INTERVENTION WITH GOP ON HIS BEHALF. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON PROPRIETY OF SUCH EMBASSY INTERVENTION.

1. RONALD HAUCK TELEPHONED EMBASSY FEBRUARY 6 TO SAY HE PLANS TO ARRIVE LISBON FEBRUARY 10 FOR NEW EFFORT AT OBTAINING GOP AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE POSSESSION OF AIRCRAFT. HAUCK INDICATED HIS LISBON LAWYER JORGE ABREU HAS BEEN UNDERTAKING HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS IN SUPPORT OF HIS CASE. HAUCK SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT DECISION TO RELEASE AIRCRAFT MUST BE MADE AT HIGH LEVEL IN GOP,
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AND ASKED FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S INTERVENTION WITH GOP

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ON HIS BEHALF.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFF EARLIER FEBRUARY 6, FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY DIRGEN POLITICAL AFFAIRS INDICATED GOP STILL UNCONVINCED ABOUT VALIDITY HAUCK'S CLAIM. OFFICIAL SAID NIGERIANS HAVE ALSO CLAIMED AIRCRAFT, AS WELL AS OTHER EX-BIAFRAN MATERIAL IN SAO TOME, AND IMPLIED THAT NIGERIAN CLAIM, MADE IN LONDON, HAD BEEN RENEWED WITHIN PAST FEW MONTHS. OFFICIAL LEFT EMBOFF WITH IMPRESSION THAT IN ABSENCE OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS GOP WILL NOT RELEASE PLANE.

3. IN JANUARY CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL EMBOFF WAS INFORMED THAT GOP SUSPECTS THAT HAUCK MAY BE OPERATING ON BEHALF OF HENRY WARTON, TO WHOM BIAFRANS ALLEGEDLY TRANSFERRED PLANE AT END OF BIAFRAN INSURGENCY. THIS SUSPICION, AND LINGERING BELIEF THAT HAUCK HAS NEVER TOLD GOP THE WHOLE STORY, CONTRIBUTES TO CONTINUED PORTUGUESE RELUCTANCE TO COMPLY WITH HAUCK'S REQUEST.

4. EMBASSY HAS TAKEN UP HAUCK'S CASE REPEATEDLY OVER PAST FOUR MONTHS WITH MIDDLE LEVEL AND SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS. ON OCCASIONS WE FEEL WE HAVE COME CLOSE TO WEARING OUT OUR WELCOME. IN OUR VIEW, ESSENTIAL POINTS AT ISSUE ARE WHETHER BY GRANTING FAA CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION USG HAS CERTIFIED TO HAUCK'S OWNERSHIP OF AND CLEAR TITLE O AIRCRAFT, AND WHETHER AS RESULT WE SHOULD TAKE UP HIS CLAIM AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL WITH GOP. IN VIEW OF HAUCK'S INTENTION TO ASK THE AMBASSADOR O UNDERTAKE A DEMARCHE ON HIS BEHALF WE WOULD WELCOME DEPT'S VIEWS ON DEGREE TO WHICH WE SHOULD SUPPORT HIS CLAIM.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: DETENTION, AIRCRAFT, CIVIL AVIATION
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740246/aaaabqzn.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Subject: CIVAIR-HS-125 AIRCRAFT DETAINED SAO TOME
TAGS: ETRN, PO, (WARTON, HENRY), (HAUCK, RONALD)
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